

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
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PRS-01 USIA-06 NASA-01 ERDA-05 OES-07 OIC-02 /099 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:RBARRY/DMACUK:SGH
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
S/P:WGATHRIGHT (DRAFT)
L/UNA:DSTEWART
PM/ISP:MMICHAUD
ACDA/MA:LFINCH
EUR/SOV:GMATHEWS
DOD/ISA:MGOLDSTEIN
NSC:CSTEBBINS
S/S-O: LRFLEISCHER

-----042720 151532Z /40

R 150214Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247137

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AU, US, UN, OS

SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA: POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN INITIATIVE ON
DEMILITARIZATION OF OUTER SPACE

REF: USUN 3302

1. IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN INITIATIVES ON OUTER
SPACE, MISOFFS SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

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-- IDEA OF AN AGREEMENT TO FOREGO WEAPONS THAT CAN
DESTROY OTHER SIDE'S SATELLITES SEEMS CONSISTENT WITH
U.S. EFFORT TO INITIATE THE NEGOTIATION OF SUCH AN
AGREEMENT WITH USSR.

-- PRESIDENT HAS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HAVING
U.S. AND USSR FOREGO ASAT CAPABILITIES.

-- AS JANKOWITSCH IS AWARE, WE HAVE PROBLEMS WITH PHRASEOLOGY SUCH AS "DEMILITARIZATION OF OUTER SPACE" WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED TO COVER NAVIGATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND OBSERVATION PROGRAMS WHICH U.S. IS UNWILLING TO FOREGO. LANGUAGE SUPPORTING "PEACEFUL USES" OF OUTER SPACE CONTAINED IN PREVIOUS UN SPACE RESOLUTIONS AND OUTER SPACE TREATY WOULD AVOID THE PROBLEM.

-- WE WERE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT AUSTRIANS DO NOT PLAN TO CALL FOR ACTION IN 32ND GA ON THIS SUBJECT. OUR ATTITUDE ON A RESOLUTION OR A PROPOSAL IN SSOD CONTEXT WOULD DEPEND ON STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS, WHICH SO FAR HAVE NOT FORMALLY BEGUN.

2. FYI: THE DESIRED GOAL FOR OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS WOULD BE A RELATIVELY COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD BAN ALL ASAT CAPABILITIES EXCEPT ELECTRONIC WARFARE (WHICH WOULD PRESENT VERIFICATION PROBLEMS). THE BAN WOULD PROHIBIT TESTING IN SPACE OR AGAINST OBJECTS IN SPACE, AND DEPLOYMENT OR USE OF ANY ASAT FOR PHYSICAL ATTACK ON SATELLITES. PENDING SUCH AN AGREEMENT THE U.S. WILL CONTINUE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON ASAT SYSTEMS. THESE COMPREHENSIVE R&D PROGRAMS WILL BE VIGOROUSLY PURSUED, SHORT OF THE OPERATIONAL OR SPACE-BASED TESTING, CARRYING TO CONFIDENTIAL

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PRODUCTION ONLY THOSE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE NOT INCLUDED IN A US/USSR TREATY. IN NEGOTIATING THE TREATY, EMPHASIS IS TO BE PLACED ON THE CAPABILITY TO VERIFY AGREEMENTS REACHED. END FYI.

3. YOU SHOULD ASK AUSTRIANS IF THEY HAVE APPROACHED SMUN ON THEIR PROPOSAL AND WHAT SOVIET REACTION HAS BEEN.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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